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**Arnold Schwarzenegger
GOVERNOR**

December 3, 2004

To: California Ocean and Coastal Community

From: Mike Chrisman, Secretary for Resources
Jim Branham, Undersecretary for Environmental Protection

Subject: California Calls for Action on National Ocean Policy

This memorandum is to notify you of our recent efforts to implement Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's ocean action plan titled *Protecting our Ocean: California's Action Strategy* released on October 18, 2004. The action plan calls for the President and the White House Council on Environmental Quality to support major provisions of the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy and Pew Oceans Commission's final reports. On November 5, 2004, the Resources Agency and the California Environmental Protection Agency submitted a letter to the Council on Environmental Quality detailing California's priorities for action. An electronic copy of this letter and the Governor's ocean action plan can be downloaded from the following URL: <http://resources.ca.gov/ocean/>

In mid-November, Secretary Chrisman and representatives of the Governor's Washington D.C. office met with key members of the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy, the Council on Environmental Quality, and members of U.S. Congress to urge action to implement major recommendations of the Commissions' reports. The Schwarzenegger Administration will continue to work with all of these parties in the coming year on national ocean policy reform.

The ocean action plan will guide the activities of the soon to be formed California Ocean Protection Council that is being established pursuant to the California Ocean Protection Act signed into law by the Governor this year. We hope to have the first meeting of the Council in March 2005. We are moving forward with steps to implement the 13 recommendations in the action plan. This memorandum will be the first in a series of regular updates on our progress. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Brian Baird, Assistant Secretary for Ocean and Coastal Policy, at brian.baird@resources.ca.gov or (916) 657-0198.